



MINNESOTA VETERAN **BENEFITS**

Financial, health and educational benefits for Veterans and families



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)

serves by providing assistance to Veterans, their dependents, and survivors.

Through **MDVA's Benefits Division**, Veteran's can access...



Whether you have experienced **financial hardship** or **homelessness**, lived through a **natural disaster** or are living with a **disability**, you have earned access to a variety of state and federal benefits designed to assist you and your family.

MDVA is here to help MN Veterans during the times you need it most...



Housing / Homelessness

Minnesota Homeless Veteran Registry connects Veterans experiencing homelessness with various housing and service programs available within their community. Veteran participation in the Registry is voluntary, and anyone can refer a Veteran to join. If you are a landlord with housing for rent, please consider adding your name to our database.

HUD-VASH Grants provide assistance with security deposits for Veterans, available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Housing and Urban Development – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH).

Minnesota Operation for Veterans Empowerment (M.O.V.E.) addresses Veteran homelessness by providing temporary shelter and case management. This program is a partnership between MDVA, local shelters, the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, and the Minneapolis VA Health Care System.

Other Housing Programs

*Veterans with housing needs may also qualify for funding under the **Subsistence** or **Special Needs** financial programs, as follows..*

Subsistence is a temporary disability benefit that helps with shelter, utilities, health insurance premiums, and personal needs. Based on financial need, this benefit is available to:

- Veterans and surviving spouses with a qualifying medical disability preventing them from working for at least 30 days
- Surviving spouses without a disability, within the first year of the Veteran's passing.

Special Needs is a one-time grant to help qualifying Veterans stabilize their lives during a financial hardship. Qualifying circumstances include, but are not limited to:

- Housing, shelter, or medical assistance
- Vehicle repairs
- Utility costs

Requests are granted on a case-by-case basis and applicants must demonstrate need and future sustainability.

Disaster grants to assist with repairs and expenses may be available to Veterans and surviving spouses living in an area declared a "State of Emergency" by the Governor of Minnesota.

Dental A three-tiered assistance program starts with an authorization for routine dental services. Eligible Veterans and dependents choose their provider and may be eligible for a once-per lifetime extraction and denture authorization.

Optical Those who financially qualify for Optical Assistance receive an authorization letter for one eye exam and prescription eye wear (including contacts) each year from the provider of their choice.

State Education Benefits

MDVA is committed to helping Minnesota Veterans, eligible spouses and dependents grow and develop through education.

Surviving Spouse/Dependent Education Benefit offers qualifying surviving spouses and dependents of deceased Veterans, no matter the age, free tuition to a public Minnesota University or College to obtain up to a bachelor's degree. An annual \$750 benefit is available for books, fees, supplies, and room and board.

Veterans Education Benefit is a one-time tuition grant to Veterans who have exhausted Federal GI Bill benefits through use and have not achieved a bachelor's degree or the equivalent. This maximum one-time payment of \$750 is used toward tuition for an undergraduate degree.

Minnesota GI Bill offers qualifying Veterans, eligible spouses, and dependents postsecondary education assistance up to \$1,000 per semester for full-time undergraduate or graduate students, and up to \$500 per semester for part-time students.

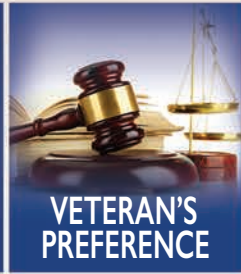


COUNSELING

MDVA's Case Management, Outreach, Referral, Education (CORE)

is a nation-leading program designed to bring essential, community-based services directly to Veterans and their families across Minnesota, at no cost to them. These services include individual and family counseling, financial counseling and debt management, in-home counseling, addiction counseling, and disability services.

MDVA partners with the Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) existing statewide network to provide CORE's comprehensive assistance.



VETERAN'S PREFERENCE

Minnesota Veterans and spouses who meet set qualifications may be awarded **Veteran's Preference** by an employer when applying for a job. Additionally, Veterans are also protected from an unfair job termination.

While we do not provide legal advice, MDVA can help guide both the Veteran and the employer so each better understand Minnesota's laws on hiring and termination as it relates to Veterans.

TO LEARN ABOUT THESE PROGRAMS CONTACT: Your local CVSO Office

MDVA's LinkVet Line

MDVA Benefits Office

Applying is simple. Here's how.

To begin taking advantage of the benefits listed in this brochure, just contact the resource listed for that program...



CVSOs are your primary resources to help identify the benefits for which you qualify, and to get the application process started. There are 92 CVSO offices located throughout Minnesota.

To apply for benefits, you will need your DD214, or discharge papers. Your CVSO can also help you track down your DD214, request your DD214 from another state, obtain a replacement copy, or locate it in the national archives.

Programs noted with 

Visit the Website below and contact the **CVSO office** closest to you.
www.macvso.org/directory.aspx



Interactive live chats

Online answers to more than 450 questions

One-on-one calls

These are just a few of the ways LinkVet can help Minnesota Veterans get the information, answers and the support they need to access state and federal programs and benefits.

Programs noted with



Contact **LinkVet** either by Web or phone.

MinnesotaVeteran.org

1-888-LinkVet
(1-888-546-5838)



MDVA
BENEFITS TEAM

The MDVA Benefits Team is here to assist Veterans and eligible family members access programs and benefits, specifically in the areas of special needs assistance, temporary shelters, and more.

Programs noted with



Contact an **MDVA Benefits specialist** at
651-296-2562



*Dedicated to serving
Minnesota Veterans
and their families*



With MDVA at your side,
you are not alone.
Our job is simply to help
Veterans from every
era **gain access to the
programs, benefits
and resources**
you have earned.

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

20 W. 12th St. • St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-2562

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